

March 28, 2007

Marine Life Protection Act Initiative
C/O California Resources Agency
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814
ATTN: Melissa Miller Henson

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to be considered for appointment to the local stakeholders group for the recently announced MLPA North Central Coast Study Region. I have attached my resume for your review.

I have been a fisheries biologist working in Marin, Sonoma, and Mendocino Counties since 1991. I have an excellent knowledge base regarding regional fisheries through work conducted in the Arroyo Corte Madera del Presidio, Lagunitas Creek, and the Russian River watershed.

I have set the direction for the Sonoma County Water Agency's Fisheries Enhancement Program since 1996. Research programs conducted under my supervision are the largest efforts of their kind ever conducted in the Russian River basin. The results of this work have resulted in significant actions including the modification of the Chinook listing proposal to include the Russian River. Restoration projects implemented under my supervision have been awarded the NOAA Environmental Stewardship Award and the National Performance Review.

In addition, I am an avid sport fisherman and own and operate the Great White Kayak Company (www.gwkc.com). My company sells specialty kayaks for fishing and diving. My family, as well as our clients, fish and dive in the proposed study area year round. GWKC also organizes the two largest kayak fishing tournaments in Northern California, one of which is near the proposed study area. I also serve on the advisory board of the Kayak Fishing Association of California (www.kfaca.org) and am also closely affiliated NorCal Kayak Anglers (www.ncka.org)

I have an excellent reputation for contributing unbiased and well-rounded perspectives to public processes and I have served on a number of technical and policy panels including the PFMC Habitat Committee, the Essential Fish Habitat Technical Advisory Committee, the Coastal Salmon Initiative Committee, and FishNet4C.

I believe my unique combination of expertise would make a positive contribution to the MLPA process. Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this important endeavor. Please feel free to contact me at (707) 535-9170 or via email at gwkc@adelphia.net if you have any questions or comments regarding this issue.

Sincerely,

Sean White
Great White Kayak Company
Ukiah, CA

Sean K. White
Ukiah, CA

Education

1991 Bachelors of Science in Fisheries Biology; Humboldt State University,
Arcata CA, Honors Graduate

Additional Courses and Training

1995 Wetland Delineation/Certification, M. Josselyn, San Francisco State University
1996 Geomorphology in River and Stream Restoration, M. Kondolf, UC Berkeley
1996 Watershed Planning, K. Johnson and T. Jensen, UC Davis Extension
1996 Identification of Trees and Shrubs, M. Fontana, Santa Rosa Junior College
1996 Watershed Stewardship Planning, D. Bowker, Napa County RCD
1997 Vernal Pools, Wetlands and Aquatic Habitats, UC Davis Extension
1997 Endangered Species Act, CLE International
1997 Central Valley Riparian Habitats, UC Davis Extension
1999 Applied Fluvial Geomorphology, D. Rosgen, Wildland Hydrology
2002 River Morphology and Applications, D. Rosgen, Wildland Hydrology

Professional Positions

2002-Present Adjunct Faculty, Santa Rosa Junior College
1998-Present Principal Environmental Specialist, Sonoma County Water Agency
1997-1998 Supervising Environmental Specialist, Sonoma County Water Agency
1997 Vice President, Marin Municipal Water District Board of Directors
1996-1997 Senior Environmental Specialist, Sonoma County Water Agency
1995-1997 Director Division IV, Marin Municipal Water District Board of Directors
1991-1996 Fisheries Biologist, Wetlands Research Associates

Relevant Work Experience

Sonoma County Water Agency

- Supervisor for the Natural Resources Section
 - Staff of 6 FTE including: four fisheries biologists, and two wildlife biologists
 - Seasonal staff of an addition Program Aides
- Project Manager for the Agency's Fisheries Enhancement Program
 - Direct research and restoration efforts
 - Russian River mainstem migration studies using screwtaps, video, and telemetry
 - Extensive water quality monitoring including profiles, datasondes, and hobo temps
 - Russian River Estuary Monitoring Plan
 - Russian River Flow Assessment
 - Habitat restoration including mainstem Russian River, West Branch Russian River, Copeland Creek, Brush Creek, Austin Creek, Porter Creek, and Crocker Creek
 - Administration of \$250,000 in annual fisheries restoration cooperative agreements
 - Received over \$470,000 in restoration grants
 - Managed Basin Plan Review agreement with Regional Water Quality Control Board

- Project Manager for the Napa-Sonoma Marsh Recycled Water and Habitat Restoration Project
-Developed \$25M recycled water component of USACE and Coastal Conservancy Project
-Administration of Civil Engineering and Hydrological Monitoring contracts
- Developed Best Management Practices for Agency Operations to minimize impacts to special status fisheries including coho and chinook salmon and steelhead
- Act as an Agency liaison to California Department of Fish and Game, National Marine Fisheries Service, Regional Water Quality Control Board, CALFED, other water utilities, as well as environmental and community groups
- Member of numerous national, state, and local organizations related to development of environmental and natural resource policy including the Pacific Fisheries Management Council Habitat Committee, National Marine Fisheries Service Essential Fish Habitat Technical Advisory Committee, Coastal Salmon Initiative, Association of California Water Agencies Anadromous Species Taskforce
- Prepare and review Agency environmental compliance (CEQA and NEPA) documents
- Obtain permitting for Agency operations including: USACE, CA Coastal Commission, State Lands, State Parks, and CDFG 1601

Marin Municipal Water District

- Set District policy
- Hired and supervised upper management including General Manager
- Reviewed preparation of 60 million dollar annual budget
- Chair of Operations and Engineering Committee
- Member of Watershed, Water Conservation, and Reclaimed Water Committees
- Resolved 18-year dispute of water release schedules into Lagunitas Creek for coho salmon and steelhead

Wetlands Research Associates

- Conducted surveys for special status species including tidewater goby, delta smelt, Sacramento splittail, California tiger salamander, red-legged frog, foothill yellow-legged frog, western pond turtle, California clapper rail, California least tern, snowy plover, and burrowing owl.
- Monitored a restored coastal lagoon to assess effects of marine diversion inflow on estuarine fish
- Conducted Section 404 Wetland Delineations
- Prepared fisheries and amphibian components of numerous CEQA and NEPA documents
- Surveyed tidal wetland mitigation sites to assess colonization by fish and invertebrates
- Designed streambank and riparian enhancement and restoration projects
- Implemented a variety of fish collection techniques including: seines, fyke nets, minnow traps, dip nets, and trawls

Professional Memberships

- American Fisheries Society

Awards

- National Marine Fisheries Service 1998 Environmental Stewardship Award
- National Performance Review, Vice President Al Gore